

LOUDOUN COUNTY EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL, INC.

ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, November 15, 2004

The October meeting of the ALS Committee was held on November 15, 2004, and called to order at 1940 hours with the following members in attendance:

Co. 3	A. Love	Co. 14	R. Ritchie
Co. 4	Absent	Co. 15	L. Kelly
Co. 6	Absent	Co. 17	R. Breton, C. Justis
Co. 8	Excused	LCFR	L. Hale
Co. 9	K. Fraley	Chair	L. Kelly
Co. 10	Excused	LHC	Absent
Co. 12	K. Deli	OMD	J. Morgan, MD
Co. 13	P. Russell		

Public Comments

None

Minutes

A motion was made by R. Breton and seconded by P. Russell to approve the minutes of the October 2004 ALS Committee meeting. The motion was approved.

Motion: Approve October 2004 minutes.

Vote: Approved

Medical Director's Report

No Report - Dr. Morgan is teaching a class and Dr. Sabella was unable to attend.

Loudoun Hospital Center Report

Chairman Kelly discussed that at the monthly meeting with the hospital, it appeared that they do not at this time have a firm policy on the method for drawing bloods. Until such time as there is a firm policy in place, we will add a discussion item to all ALS programs, both entry level and refreshet, to discuss the use of an extension set when drawing bloods. We have advised the hospital that until such time that the hospital has a firm direction and policy in place we will not change our blood drawing policies/procedures.

Lisa Joyce has expressed concerns about the pouch method for the replacement of controlled substances that we currently follow. She has contacted the Virginia Pharmacy Board and spoke with the Deputy Director who advised her that we could go back to a one-on-one exchange provided that the drugs are maintained under a double lock mechanism. In order to accomplish this the region would have to agree to this procedure. Lisa has asked that Jay Brown, Chair of the Northern Virginia EMS Council explore this possibility with the other jurisdictions in the region. The Deputy Director said that this would be a regional decision and would not need to involve the hospital pharmacists. The committee discussed the pro and cons of changing from the current system.

Battalion Chief Linda Hale had also sent an e-mail to JoAnn Neufer of the LHC Pharmacy concerning the unusual number of breakages that were being experienced with the Isuprel ampoules in the drug bags despite the best efforts of the field providers to protect them. JoAnn in an e-mail to Linda stated that she was not aware of a problem but would check into it.

Working Groups

Mentor Program

Robin Davis reported by e-mail that he has made significant progress on the Mentor Program with regard to identification of active and non-active Mentors and should be able to provide a report at the next meeting of the ALS Committee.

Preceptor Forms Review

Randy Breton reported that there was no report at this time.

Courses

The following programs are ongoing:

Evening EMT/E
Daytime EMT/B to EMT/I
EMT/I to EMT/P upgrade

ALS Testing is scheduled for December 4, 2004, at the Training Center.

November 15, 2004

A PALS class was conducted November 13, 14, 2004 with twenty personnel in attendance.

An ACLS Provider and ACLS Provider Renewal Class is scheduled for this coming weekend, November 20, 21, 2004, at the Training Center. There are fourteen scheduled for the Provider class and four scheduled for the ACLS Renewal Class.

Chairman Kelly presented a recommendation from Training for the EMT/I/P Refresher class to be held in January with scheduled testing in February.

Two parallel programs would be conducted one during the daytime and one in the evening hours and on a couple of weekend days. Kelly expressed concerns about separating the volunteer and career provider refresher class. He stated that he fears that these separate classes will lead to a fragmentation of the system. He further stated that he thought that the system benefited from having both volunteer and career providers in that same classroom.

Several of the committee members felt that the daytime class would offer an opportunity to complete the class at a more rapid rate and that several system members might find this attractive.

A reminder that instructors and evaluators in ALS classes are limited to personnel approved to perform these tasks.

It appears that there have been problems reported with the current EMT/B class that are being addressed by the training staff and BLS Committee Chair.

Chairman Kelly reiterated the need to continue be concerned with and focus on the quality of the product that is being produced by both the BLS and ALS level program to ensure that service delivery is not compromised by our efforts and pressure to obtain a large numbers of ALS providers quickly.

A motion was made by Patty Russell and seconded by Allie Love to recommend to the Medical Director the outline presented by the Training Division for EMT/I-P Refresher Training.

**Motion: Recommend to the Medical Director the outline presented by the
Training Division for EMT/I-P Refresher Training**

Vote: Approved

ALS Technician Status

Fred Gansel reported by e-mail that no providers are currently in preceptorship at this time.

The ALS Preceptor Pretest was successfully completed by the following individuals who were invited to test and elevate their status from EMT/ST-E Preceptor to EMT/CT-I-P Preceptor and who were recommended for approval to the Medical Director at the last ALS Committee meeting in October. The following will be elevated to the EMT/CT-I-P Preceptor list:

Kit Fraley, Co. 9
John Rice, LCFR
Patricia Russell, Co. 13
Alan Willis, Co. 15

The individuals who were recommended by their Chief's and sat for the pretest for the preceptor course were brought up for a recommendation to the Medical Director to sit for the preceptor class at the levels indicated. A motion was made and seconded to accept all the students however a separate motion was made to separate the names for individual votes.

The following were approved to attend the preceptor class at the levels indicated:

Dan Rinehart, LCFR approved at the EMT/E level
William Lyden, Co. 15 approved at the EMT/E level
Francis Rath, Co. 13 approved at the EMT/E level
Michael Mahoney, LCFR approved at the EMT/CT-I-P level

Dr. John Morgan concurred with the recommendation.

A lengthy discussion on quality control issues, training and quality of care occurred during a general discussion by the committee members.

Old Business

There are still a number of companies that have not have submitted their information for the ID program.

Bob Ritchie gave an update and projections for the thermoregulation device installation.

It was brought up that although the EMD program was supposed to have gone into effect on November 1, 2004, dispatch is still not dispatching the EMT/ST-E's on the designated calls. Allie will check into this at the Commission level.

New Business

Randy Breton presented a letter from Rodney Krone, Chief of Company 17, requesting an IV stick exemption status for Chip Justis of Co. 17. A motion was made by Patty Russell of Co. 13 and seconded by Allie Love of Co. 3, to recommend to the Medical Director the approval of the IV Stick exemption for Chip Justis of Co. 17.

Motion: **Recommend to the Medical Director the approval of the IV Stick exemption for Chip Justis of Co. 17.**

Vote: **Approved**

Approved by Dr. John Morgan

A list of names provided by JoAnn Neuffer of the LHC Pharmacy was reviewed by the committee members for inactivity. Many members on the list are active members of the system who have accessed the Pyxis on a regular basis. Kelly will check with JoAnn to see where the problems are that it is not recognizing them as active.

There being no further business to be discussed a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 2225 hours.

11/15/04 LCK